



### Explore Acadia Checklist

- **See** the ocean and forest from the top of a mountain.
- **Listen** to a bubbly waterfall or stream.
- **Examine** a beaver lodge and dam.
- **Hear** the ocean waves crash into the shore.
- **Smell** a balsam fir tree.
- **Chat** with a park ranger.
- **Watch** the stars or look for moonlight shining on the sea.
- **Hear** the night sounds of insects, owls, and coyote.
- **Feel** the sand and sea with your bare feet.
- **Observe** and learn about these plants and animals living in the park:

bat	beaver	blueberry bush
cattail	coyote	deer
dragonfly	frog	fox
gray squirrel	hare	mosquito
pine tree	raptor	red squirrel
salamander	song bird	snake
turtle	water lily	wild rose



### Become a Jr. or Sr. Ranger

Learn about the park and earn a certificate and patch, by completing activities in the free Jr. Ranger Book, for ages up to 17. Sr. Ranger books, for ages 18 and over, can be purchased at a park information center.



### Accessibility

Acadia's accessible destinations and facilities are detailed in the Access Guide, a free publication available at Acadia's information centers, the entrance station, and online at: [www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm)

### Assistive Listening Devices

Accessible interpretive programs are indicated in the monthly program schedules. Assistive listening devices (ALDs) are available for use by visitors with limited hearing. For reservations of ALDs, call (207) 288-8832.

### 911 Emergency!—Call 911

#### Acadia Contacts

Address..P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609  
Acadia Information.....207-288-3338  
TTY Accessible .....207-288-8800  
Lost & Found .....207-288-8791  
Email.....acadia\_information@nps.gov  
Website.....www.nps.gov/acad



### Camping & Picnicking

Seasonal camping is provided within the park on Mount Desert Island. Blackwoods Campground is located 5 miles south of Bar Harbor and Seawall Campground is located 5 miles south of Southwest Harbor. Private campgrounds are also found throughout the island. Blackwoods Campground often fills months in advance. Once at the park, all sites are first come, first served. Reservations in advance are highly recommended. Before you arrive, visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

### Campground Fees & Reservations

For Blackwoods and Seawall Campground reservations visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call:  
U.S. & Canada ..... 877-444-6777  
Outside U.S. & Canada..... 518-885-3639  
TTY ..... 877-833-6777

- Blackwoods Campground  
\$20 per night per site (in season)
- Seawall Campground  
\$20 per night for drive-up sites  
\$14 for walk-in sites

### Firewood Restrictions

Only locally obtained wood is allowed for campfires in Acadia. Wood from outside Maine is not permitted because it can carry invasive insects. If you've brought wood from outside Maine, burn it immediately to protect Acadia's forests. Use designated firepits only.

### Picnicking

Designated picnic sites with restrooms, tables, and grills are located throughout the park and are available on a first-come basis. Charcoal cooking fires are allowed in park-provided grills, or in your personal grill, placed on the gravel pad. Protect wildlife—store food securely, clean up picnic areas, and dispose of garbage in appropriate containers.

### Leave No Trace Principles

Help protect Acadia's plants, animals, and natural and cultural resources.

- Stay on the trail to protect fragile plant life.
- Leave what you find. Take what you bring.
- Don't approach or feed wild animals.
- Respect wildlife closures to allow for successful nestings of peregrines, loons, seabirds, and eagles.
- Slow down and watch for wildlife along roadsides, near dusk and dawn.
- Be considerate to others—let natural sounds prevail and limit your group size.
- Tidepool habitats and animals are fragile. Handle them with care and leave them where you find them.

For more about Leave No Trace principles visit: [www.nps.gov/acad/supportyourpark/leavenotrace.htm](http://www.nps.gov/acad/supportyourpark/leavenotrace.htm)



### Acadia's Partners

#### Eastern National Bookstore

Eastern National is a non-profit partner which provides educational materials such as books, maps, videos, and posters at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center, the Sieur de Monts Nature Center, and the park campgrounds. Members earn discounts while supporting research and education in the park. For information visit: [www.easternnational.org](http://www.easternnational.org)

#### Friends of Acadia

Friends of Acadia is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the long-term protection of the natural and cultural resources of Acadia. With the support of its members and volunteers, Friends of Acadia makes conservation grants to the park and communities, recruits and leads volunteers working in Acadia, and advocates for Acadia before the federal and state legislatures. For information call (800) 625-0321 or visit: [www.friendsofacadia.org](http://www.friendsofacadia.org)

### Schoodic Education & Research Center—Institute

The National Park Service manages SERC in cooperation with SERC-Institute, as a nonprofit facility that hosts research and education programs. The Schoodic Education Adventure (SEA), led by park rangers, is a curriculum-based residential program offering hands-on classroom and field experience for 5th to 8th grade students. SERC also coordinates annual events such as the Acadia Artist-in-Residence, a Bioblitz, and Resource Seminars. For more information visit: [www.sercinstitute.org](http://www.sercinstitute.org)

### Safety Tips

Be Careful Out There—protect yourself and the park! Most accidents at Acadia occur while visitors are biking, hiking, exploring the shoreline, and driving. Keep these tips in mind to help ensure a safe visit to the park.

- Watch your step and wear sturdy shoes. Carry a map, first aid kit, flashlight, and water and appropriate weather gear on all trips, long or short. Tell someone where you're going and when you'll return.
- Yield to pedestrians and horses. Watch for loose gravel on road curves and hills.
- Stay away from cliff edges. Watch for wet rocks and loose gravel near cliff edges and shorelines.
- Drive safely, wear seat belts, and don't drink and drive. The speed limit is 35 mph in Acadia, unless otherwise posted.
- Store food, garbage, and cooking equipment in an enclosed vehicle or a hard-sided locker.

## Acadia National Park

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the  
Interior



# Beaver Log

*Island Explorer Bus  
Schedule Inside!*

2012

## Going Green in Acadia!

Fare-free Island Explorer shuttle buses begin operating on June 23rd and end on October 8th, providing service throughout Mount Desert Island and the Schoodic Peninsula, linking the park to neighboring towns. By parking your car and riding these propane-powered buses, you help reduce traffic and parking congestion and air pollution in the area.

### Fees & Passes

The entrance fee that you pay directly benefits park visitors and resources. Acadia uses fees for projects that improve the condition of natural and cultural resources, make the park a safer place, and support the Island Explorer bus system. All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee. Passes can be purchased at all park information centers, campgrounds, and at the Sand Beach Entrance Station.



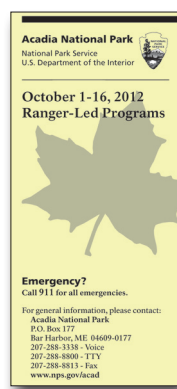
#### Acadia Entrance Fees & Passes

- 7-Day Permit: **\$10**—May 1 to June 22  
**\$20**—June 23 to October 8  
**\$10**—October 9 to October 31
- Annual Acadia Pass: **\$40** (unlimited visits to Acadia for one year from the date of purchase)

#### National Park Passes

- Interagency Annual Pass: **\$80** (access to federal fee areas for one year from date of purchase)
- Interagency Senior Pass: **\$10** (lifetime access to federal fee areas for U.S. citizens 62+ years old)
- Interagency Access Pass: **Free** (lifetime access for U.S. citizens with a permanent disability)

### Ranger-led Programs



Interpretive programs led by park rangers are presented throughout the park from mid-May to mid-October. Stretch your mind and body with a wide range of topics and activities including walks and talks, mountain hikes, boat cruises, seashore explorations, and bike rides. Pick up a program schedule at park information centers and campgrounds or find it on our website at: [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

### New! Jordan Pond House Express

This summer, a new Island Explorer express bus is running directly from the Hulls Cove Visitor Center to the Jordan Pond House. Take the 15-minute *Jordan Pond House Express* to avoid traffic congestion and limited parking at the Jordan Pond House. Leave your vehicle and board the bus at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center parking lot.

The *Jordan Pond House Express* begins on June 23rd and runs through Labor Day weekend. The bus departs daily from the Hulls Cove Visitor Center every 20 minutes, from 12:05pm to 2:45pm. Return bus service from the Jordan Pond House to the Hulls Cove Visitor Center departs daily from 12:25pm to 5:10pm.

To travel to the Jordan Pond House from downtown Bar Harbor, Northeast Harbor, or Seal Harbor, take the Island Explorer—*Jordan Pond* bus, which operates daily every 30 minutes from these locations.

For all Island Explorer bus route information, see the *Island Explorer Bus Schedule* inside this Beaver Log. The Island Explorer buses are free, but remember that a park pass is required for all visitors entering Acadia National Park.



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### Welcome to Acadia!

National Parks play an important role in helping Americans shape a healthy lifestyle. Research by the Center for Disease Control has shown that more than 40 percent of Americans are sedentary. More and more doctors are writing *Park Prescriptions* to get their patients outside and active. Acadia offers many opportunities for you to explore nature, get fit, and connect to your outdoors.

Acadia has over 140 miles of hiking trails and 45 miles of carriage roads, and is part of the NPS's Healthy Parks, Healthy People program. From gentle walks along the rugged coastline, to mountain hikes, to tree-lined carriage roads for biking, to lakes for kayaking and canoeing, Acadia offers many opportunities to get outside and be active. If you would like to mix your fun and fitness with new skills and knowledge, join a ranger on a program that matches your interests and activity level.

—Superintendent—Sheridan Steele



**Parlez-Vous Français?** Une traduction française d'information de parc est disponible au centre d'accueil à Hulls Cove sur la route 3 ou au park headquarters sur la route 233.

**Sprechen Sie Deutsch?** Park information auf Deutsch finden Sie im Besuchercenter in Hulls Cove an der Strasse #3. Vielen Dank für Ihren Besuch.



# Acadia National Park

(207) 288-3338

[www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)



## Information & Passes

### Thompson Island Information Center

As you arrive on Mount Desert Island, look for signs to this center, operated by Acadia and the MDI Regional Chambers of Commerce. Park information, entrance passes, and restrooms are available here. The picnic area and more restrooms are located across the highway from the center.

### Hulls Cove Visitor Center

Talk with a park ranger to help plan your visit. Purchase your entrance pass, pick up a park map, watch the 15-minute “Acadia Always” film, and look over the three-dimensional model of Mount Desert Island. Acadia-related books, maps, and educational materials are available for purchase at the Eastern National Bookstore. For handicap parking and an accessible entrance follow the directional signs. For a Green–Acadia experience, the Hulls Cove Visitor Center is the best place to park and ride the bus, bike, or walk into the park.

### Park Headquarters

Located west of Bar Harbor on Route 233, park headquarters provides park information, entrance passes, and a small Eastern National Bookstore. It is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Only short-term parking is available at this location.

### Bar Harbor Village Green

The Village Green Information Center is in downtown Bar Harbor, adjacent to the Island Explorer bus stop. Park and bus information and entrance passes are available here. The Village Green area offers free wi-fi access.

## Pets in Acadia

Pets are welcome in Acadia, as long as they are on a leash (up to 6 feet) at all times and under control. Never leave pets unattended. Only service animals are permitted in park buildings and facilities, including the Wild Gardens. Commercial kennels are available outside of the park for temporary care of your pets. Please clean up after your pet. Remember that pets are **not allowed**:

- On ladder trails including the Beehive, the Precipice, and Jordan Cliffs.
- On Sand Beach and Echo Lake Beach from May 15th to September 15th.
- In public drinking water sources, including Jordan Pond, Hadlock Ponds, Eagle Lake, and Bubble Pond.
- On Acadia Ranger-Led programs.
- On cruises, unless permitted by operators.



## Create Your Green-Acadia Experience

Acadia National Park protects more than 49,000 acres of granite-domed mountains, forests, and ocean shorelines creating striking scenery and diverse habitats. This varied environment combined with a rich cultural history creates unparalleled scientific, educational, and recreational opportunities in a spectacular setting. For a Green-Acadia Experience, leave your car where you’re staying or park at Hulls Cove Visitor Center and ride the bus, bike, or walk into the park. Create your own experience from the following options.

## Go Green–Bus Trips

Explore twenty miles of spectacular scenery along the Park Loop Road on the Island Explorer Bus. Frequent buses make it easy to get on and off at every stop. The bus is free and provides *green* access to the park and its facilities. Remember to purchase your park pass before boarding the bus. All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee.

### Ocean Drive

This scenic section of the Park Loop Road takes you along the classic, rugged Maine coast and provides access to a rare sand beach.

**Sand Beach**—Enjoy the park’s only ocean sand beach. Swim, play in the sand, or just relax in the sun. Changing rooms and restrooms are available. The Ocean Path starts here.

**Ocean Path**—Walk along all or a portion of the two-mile Ocean Path. Be careful—loose gravel and wet rocks on the shoreline create dangerous footing and can lead to serious falls. Stay on the trail and away from the edge.

**Thunder Hole & Gift Shop**— Observe the power of the Atlantic Ocean as waves crash into the shoreline. For thundering waves at Thunder Hole, try arriving 2.5 hours before high tide. Visit the Acadia Corporation Gift Shop for park souvenirs.

**Scenic Hikes**—A variety of hiking trails with spectacular views are accessed from Ocean Drive. For specific information, pick up a hiking guide.

### Jordan Pond

Riding the bus to Jordan Pond enables you to plan a one-way bike ride or hike. An iconic Acadia view across Jordan Pond can be enjoyed over tea and popovers on the lawn, or enjoy a full lunch or dinner in the Jordan Pond House. Reservations are highly recommended. Both the restaurant and the Acadia Corporation gift shop are accessible. For reservations call Acadia Corporation at (207) 276-3316 or visit [www.thejordanpondhouse.com](http://www.thejordanpondhouse.com)



### Sieur de Monts

George B. Dorr, Acadia’s Founding Father, called Sieur de Monts the heart of Acadia. Discover a bit of the park history as well as the story of some of Maine’s earliest people, the Wabanaki. The spring, gardens and historic buildings are accessible and connected by paved sidewalks. Historic hiking trails lead to many mountaintop views and into Bar Harbor. An accessible boardwalk meanders through the forest.

**Wild Gardens of Acadia**—Displays of Acadia’s plant communities are cultivated and labeled to test your identification skills. They are wheelchair-accessible. Only service animals are allowed in the gardens.

**Nature Center**—Park rangers and exhibits are available to help you learn about Acadia’s natural resources and its management challenges. Browse a small Eastern National Bookstore inside the Nature Center.

**Abbe Museum**—Explore the stories of Maine’s Native people, the Wabanaki, and their connection to Mount Desert Island. Visit this location and the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor for a nominal fee. Call (207) 288-3519 for more information or visit: [www.abbemuseum.org](http://www.abbemuseum.org)



## Explore Low-Tide!

*The Ranger-Led Program Schedule contains monthly tide charts.*

### Tidepool Tips

The intertidal zone, where ocean meets land, is one of the most fascinating areas in Acadia. Here you can see creatures with amazing survival skills that allow them to stay alive when, twice each day, the tide leaves them exposed. Remember that careless handling and footsteps can damage coastal areas and marine organisms. For your safety, keep three points of contact with the ground, watch for waves, and watch where you walk—it’s slippery by the sea.

### Bar Island Walk

The bar is only exposed for 1.5 hours before low tide until 1.5 hours after low tide, for a total of three hours. Consult a tide chart before heading out. Do not park on the bar—the tide turns swiftly and will submerge your car. Access the bar via Bridge Street, off West Street in Bar Harbor.

## LET'S MOVE! Get Out–Get Active!

### Biking

Bicycling allows you to exercise and enjoy Acadia’s natural beauty. Bicycles are allowed on roadways and park carriage roads, but not on hiking trails or private carriage roads—as marked. You can rent bicycles from local businesses.

**Biking Safety**—Be cautious on motor roads with no bike lanes or shoulders. Follow the one-way traffic rule on the Park Loop Road. Ride slowly and enjoy the scenery. Plan ahead and know the condition of your routes. When biking on the carriage roads—ride two bikes only, side-by-side, bike on the right, and pass on the left. Warn others when passing from behind and pass slowly with a wide berth. Slow down near horses, contact the rider, and be prepared to stop. Move to the side when stopped and be extra careful when biking with pets.

### Hiking

Over 140 miles of trails throughout Acadia offer scenic views and physical challenges to all levels of walkers or hikers. Carriage road and trail maps are available at park information centers and campgrounds. For long hiking trips, detailed maps are recommended and are available for purchase. Some of Acadia’s trail names have recently changed to their historic names. Until maps are updated, trail names on maps may differ from names posted on trail signs.

**Hiking Safety**—Stay on trails and durable surfaces, like bare granite, to protect fragile plant life. Cairns, or trail markers, are carefully maintained by the park; please do not add to, or remove them. Hiking boots and gear are recommended. Watch for posted trail closures—the Precipice Trail and the Orange and Black Path (East Face Trail) are closed until peregrine chicks leave their nests in late summer. For current closures call (207) 288-3338 or visit: [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

### Walking

Accessible walks can be enjoyed on the carriage roads, on trails at Sieur de Monts Spring, Jordan Pond, and Cadillac Mountain, and on the Ocean Path. When on the carriage roads—walk on the right side, with only two people side-by-side, and move to the side when stopped.

### Swimming

Swimming facilities are provided at Sand Beach and Echo Lake starting in June until Labor Day. In the summer, ocean temperatures at Sand Beach rarely rise above 55° F and Echo Lake averages about 70° F. Swimming, wading, and pets are prohibited in most lakes and ponds in Acadia, which are public drinking water sources.

### Canoeing & Kayaking

Boating is allowed on several lakes and ponds in Acadia, including Jordan Pond and Eagle Lake. Ocean kayaking should only be attempted by experienced sea kayakers or with a certified guide. Equipment rentals and tours are available in nearby communities. The islands near Schoodic Peninsula, Sheep Porcupine, Long Porcupine, Rolling, Bar (Somes Sound), Heron, and Thrumcap Islands are closed during eagle and seabird nesting seasons. All marine mammals are protected—observe from afar.

### Climbing

There are a variety of established climbing routes within Acadia. Bouldering and climbing should only be attempted by experienced climbers or with a licensed climbing guide, available at local businesses.

### Bird Watching

Acadia hosts a wide variety of migratory and resident birds. Birding hot spots include lakes and ponds, Sieur de Monts, Otter Point, and Ship Harbor. Seabirds can be seen from the shoreline. Eagles are seen throughout Acadia. Ranger-led bird watching programs are listed in the Ranger-led Program Schedule, including bird walks, Peregrine Watch from May to August, and Hawk Watch from August to October.

### Sunrise, Sunset, & Night-sky Viewing

Enjoy brilliant sunrises and sunsets highlighting Acadia’s unique landscape. Limited light pollution around Acadia helps to provide dark night skies. Popular night-sky viewing locations include Sand Beach and Cadillac Mountain. See the monthly Ranger-Led Program Schedule for star gazing programs and sunrise/sunset schedules.

### Volunteering

Help out Acadia—Volunteer! Meet us at Acadia’s Headquarters on Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday mornings at 8AM, June through October or call (207) 288-3934 for current information. For other volunteer opportunities call (207) 288-8716 or visit: [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

## Ocean Adventures

### Baker Island

Watch for wildlife and breathtaking views of Mount Desert Island, the Cranberry Islands, and Egg Rock Lighthouse on the way to Baker Island. On the island, visit the Baker Island Lighthouse and a historic homestead. For ranger-led boat tours on the *Miss Samantha* call (207) 288-2386.

### Isle au Haut

A perfect destination for a day trip, with relative solitude and 18 miles of hiking trails. Isle au Haut is accessed by ferry from Stonington, about a 65 mile drive from Mount Desert Island. Bring your necessities with you—there are few amenities on the island. The Duck Harbor Campground on Isle au Haut requires a \$25 permit that allows camping once a year, per group. For more information, call (207) 288-3338 or visit: [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

### Islesford Historical Museum

Discover what life was like for early European settlers and experience present-day island life. The museum is located on Little Cranberry Island, in the village of Islesford, and is accessible by boat or ferry from Northeast Harbor or Southwest Harbor. The museum is open daily through the summer and closes September 30th. For ranger-led boat tours on the *Sea Princess* call (207) 276-5352.

### Schoodic Peninsula

The Schoodic Peninsula is the only portion of Acadia on the mainland. To *go green*—take the 30-minute ferry from Bar Harbor to Winter Harbor, then board the Island Explorer bus to reach the Schoodic section of Acadia. Bikes are welcome on the ferry and the bus. Bus service on Schoodic ends on August 31st. Driving from Bar Harbor to the Schoodic Peninsula takes about 1.5 hours each way. Don’t forget to pick up your park pass before you go. For more information visit: [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)



## Touring Acadia

### Driving in Acadia

Acadia’s scenic Park Loop Road showcases 27 miles of spectacular Acadia scenery. The drive starts at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center. Printed guides and an audio tour are sold at the Eastern National Bookstores. Parking is permitted only in posted areas, parking lots, and established roadside pullouts.

**Vehicle Restrictions**—Vehicles taller than 11-feet, 8-inches are not allowed on the Park Loop Road system—they won’t fit under the bridges. Vehicles and trailers longer than 20 feet are not permitted on Bass Harbor Head Road or the southern end of Schooner Head Road. Vehicles and trailers longer than 35 feet or taller than 11-feet, 8-inches are not allowed in Acadia’s campgrounds.

### Cadillac Mountain

Drive up a 3.5 mile winding, narrow road to the top of the tallest mountain on the eastern seaboard of the United States. At the summit, an accessible path leads to scenic views of the ocean and surrounding islands. The road is open April 15th to December 1st, weather permitting. An Acadia Corporation gift shop provides park souvenirs and snacks. Bring warm clothing—it’s often cold and windy on Cadillac. Instead of driving, take the free shuttle bus to a trailhead and hike to the top of the mountain. Only concession buses travel to the top of Cadillac. See Bus Tours below.

### Carroll Homestead

Visit the historical home of the Carroll family and learn about homesteading in early New England. A self-guided interpretive brochure is available on site and at park information centers. The Carroll Homestead is located on Route 102, north of Southwest Harbor. See the Ranger-led Program Schedule for more activities. The area closes at dark.

### Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse

Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse is the only lighthouse on Mount Desert Island and is located off Route 102A in Bass Harbor. It is a private Coast Guard residence, so please respect their privacy. Short trails on both sides of the lighthouse offer views of the Gulf of Maine. The area closes at dark.

### Bus Tours

Narrated bus tours throughout Acadia and up Cadillac Mountain are offered by concessioners. For schedules and reservations contact National Park Tours at (207) 288-0300 or visit: [www.acadiatours.com](http://www.acadiatours.com), and Oli’s Trolley at (207) 288-9899 or visit: [www.acadiaislandtours.com](http://www.acadiaislandtours.com)

### Wildwood Stables

Learn about Acadia’s historic carriage roads on horse-drawn carriages. Accessible carriage rides, private tours, and stabling for your personal horses are also available. For reservations call Carriages of Acadia, Inc. at (877) 276-3622 or visit: [www.carriagesofacadia.com](http://www.carriagesofacadia.com)